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10/026,922	12/21/2001	Christophe Bouret	915-411	7118

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EXAMINER

CHUNG, JI YONG DAVID

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2143

DATE MAILED: 03/25/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/026,922

Applicant(s)

BOURET ET AL.

Examiner

Ji-Yong D. Chung

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 3/22/2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/21/01, 3/23/04
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. **Claims 1, 7-11, 13, 14, 17, and 22-24** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Orfali et al (Orfali, hereinafter). Orfali reference is based on CORBA and JAVA technologies; Orfali reference incorporates CORBA specifications/documentations at www.omg.org (the website is referenced on page 973 of Orfali). For the purposes of examination, the relevant document is “CORBAServices: Common Object Services Specification.” (CORBA_1, hereinafter).

With regard to **claim 1**, CORBA_1 shows a method for providing services for clients, _____
comprising:

signaling from said at least one external service provider offers that associate with services to an interface entity associated with the data network [See page 16-2 of CORBA_1.
Exporting trader (external to an importing trader) sends offers. See section 16.2.7 of CORBA_1]
processing the offers at the interface entity in order to make a decision regarding the acceptance of the offers [See page 16-9 of CORBA_1, Section 16.2.7];

including accepted services into a register of services that are available for the clients
[See Register operation on page 16-36 of CORBA_1, for Section 16.5.3. The operation registers the services];

requesting for a service from the interface entity for use by one of said clients (Lookup interface includes query requests from the local trader to request a service. See pages 16-30 to 16-35 or Section 16.5.1 of CORBA_1).

processing the request by the interface entity to find a matching service from the registered services [See Matched Offers in Fig. 16-3 on page 16-15, of CORBA_1]; and

if a matching service is found, requesting for said service from an external service provider providing said service by communicating a message to said external service provider based on a protocol that enables initiation of a service provisioning session [See Returned Offers in Fig. 16-3 on page 16-15, of CORBA_1. The client would use the returned service. See paragraphs 1 and 2 of Section 16-1 and Fig. 16-1, on page 16-2, of CORBA_1].

With reference to **claim 7**, SECURITY shows *that an authentication procedure is accomplished between the interface entity of the data network and the external service provider*. See Section 15.3.1 on page 15-18 and Fig. 15-3 on page 15-19 of CORBA_1. Note that the Security Service is one of CORBA services.

With reference to **claim 8**, CORBA_1 shows *establishing interfaces for the provision of the requested service based on information communicated by means of said protocol*. Lookup interface provides query function to obtain information on the available service interfaces. See

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16.5.1, page 16-30 and 16-31 of CORBA_1.

With reference to **claim 9**, Orfali shows *information communicated by means of the protocol the establishment of interfaces between the interface entity and the external service provider without any beforehand defined interfaces for the service provisioning*. See Table 15-5 on page 370 of Orfali for Dynamic discovery and Dynamic Invocations.

With reference to **claim 10**, for its limitation, *wherein all interfaces required for providing the service connection are established based on information communicated by means of said protocol*. See the preceding discussion of claim 9 and note that the protocol, such as IIOP, carries the set of information on the interfaces.

With reference to **claim 11**, CORBA_1 shows a *step of modifying the requested service to be suitable for use in the data network based on information communicated by means of said protocol*. See Modify operation on page 16-42 of CORBA_1.

With reference to **claim 13**, CORBA_1 shows *at least one of the services comprises a call management service*. See the call management services provided by Link interface in Section 16.5.6 on page 16-49 of CORBA_1. Link service manages how calls are made to a set of traders.

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With reference to **claim 14**, CORBA_1 shows that *at least one of the clients comprises an end user of the data network*. The CORBA end user is the one who calls one of the functions of the interfaces Register and Lookup in the Section 16.5 of CORBA_1.

With reference to **claim 17**, CORBA_1 shows *the service discovery interface discovers only selected offers*. See Fig. 16-3, in CORBA_1. Note the query operations for Lookup interface.

With reference to **claim 22**, CORBA_1 *shows the interface entity comprises a plurality of application programming interfaces*. All of the Section 16.5 of CORBA_1 is devoted to describing application programming interfaces.

With reference to **claim 23**, Orfali shows that *wherein the data network is adapted to communicate packet data*. It suffices to note that IIOP (see page 14 of Orfali) stands for Internet Inter-ORB Protocol. The Internet transports IP packets.

With reference to **claim 24**, Orfali shows *that the communication in the data network is based on the Internet Protocol (IP)*. It suffices to note that IIOP (see page 14 of Orfali) stands for Internet Inter-ORB Protocol. The Internet transports IP packets

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. **Claims 5-6, 12, 16, 18-21, 27-29, and 31-35** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Orfali and other references that it incorporates.

With reference to **claim 5**, CORBA_1 shows the step in which *the at least one* [external] *service provider offers the services based on said protocol*, but does not indicate that the service provider is *external*. See paragraphs 2, on page 16-2 of CORBA_1, for the procedure in which the service provider gives a trader its service and location of the interface. Note that the service is based on IIOP (Internet Inter-ORB Protocol).

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention, to allow services nodes that are external to the intranet, because the CORBA uses IIOP (Interoperable Internet Object Protocol), which is designed to use the Internet and thus have access to services world-wide (See paragraph 3, of page 16-2 of CORBA_1).

With reference to **claim 6**, CORBA_1 shows that *the offers are broadcast to be received by interface entities of at least two data networks*.

See paragraph 4, on page 16-2 of CORBA_1. The paragraph describes a client working with a trader, which then works with federation of traders. Thus, offers are broadcast to more than one interface entities. However, it is not shown whether there are more than one data networks involved.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention that there are more than one data networks from which the trader federation is composed, because CORBA uses IIOP (Interoperable Internet Object Protocol), which is designed to use the Internet and thus have access to services, and therefore, to networks, world-wide (See paragraph 3, of 16-2).

With reference to **claim 12**, Orfali does not show *that at least one of the clients comprises an application that is internal for the data network*. However, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to provide application that is internal for the data network, in order to enforce security and privacy. Note, in addition, that a server application must be obviously either internal or external to a private network.

With reference to **claim 16**, CORBA_1 shows *a service discovery interface of the interface entity monitors for offers by the at least one service provider*. See Lookup interface in Section 16.5 of CORBA_1. CORBA_1 does not show that one of the traders or that registered service is *external* to the network.

The rationale for obviousness for having external service provider is as same as that given for claim 5.

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With reference to **claim 18**, CORBA_1 shows *the interface entity sends an inquiry for a service to at least one [external] service provider*. See Sections 16.1.1 and 16.1.2 in CORBA_1, where a trader sends an inquiry for service to other traders. CORBA_1 does not show that one of the end service providers is external to the network.

The rationale for obviousness for having *external* service provider is as same as that given for claim 5.

With reference to **claim 19**, CORBA_1 shows that *the inquiry is broadcast to possible service providers*. Sections 16.1.1 and 16.1.2 of CORBA_1 indicate that the message maybe sent to more than one service.

With reference to **claim 20**, CORBA_1 shows *that the offers by the at least one service provider are registered in a register function*. See Register described in Section 16.5.3 of CORBA_1. The limitation, which CORBA_1 does not show, that of the service provider being external, has been discussed with claims 18 and 19.

With reference to **claim 21**, CORBA_1 does not show that *charging interface of the interface entity is employed for signing of a service usage agreement*. However, Orfali, on page 892, shows an interface for billing a client.

It would have been obvious to provide an interface for charging a client, in order to bill the client for use of a particular service.

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Claims 27-29 and 31-35 substantively incorporate all the limitations of claims 1, 5, 7-9, 17, 22, and 23, but in apparatus or product form.

The reasons for the rejections of claims 1, 5, 7-9, 17, 22, and 23 apply to claims 27-29 and 31-35. Therefore, claims 27-29 and 31-35 are rejected for substantively the same reasons.

5. **Claims 2-4 and 30** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Orfali, in view of “OMG Members Meet o Advance Integration Standards.” (CORBA_SOAP, hereinafter) and Deason.

Claim 2 refers to the protocol in claim 1 as SIP, which Orfali does not show but Deason shows.

It would have been obvious to use SIP and SOAP to one of ordinary skill at the time of the invention, because as Deason shows using SOAP over SIP (See the Abstract, page 1 of Deason). In addition, it would have been obvious to use SOAP to make object calls to CORBA servers, as explained in the third paragraph on page 1 of CORBA_SOAP. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use SIP as the underlying protocol in accessing CORBA objects via SOAP.

Claims 3-4 refer to SOAP and HTTP, neither of which Orfali shows in combination with CORBA. However, CORBA_SOAP illustrates shows SOAP and HTTP (the third paragraph in page 1 of CORBA_SOAP). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use SOAP and CORBA, because CORBA_SOAP shows the concept of

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having a system that uses SOAP over HTTP to access CORBA servers. See the third paragraph in page 1 of CORBA_SOAP.

Claim 30 substantively incorporates all the limitations of claims 2-4, but in apparatus or product form. The reasons for the rejections of claims 2-4 apply to claim 30. Therefore, claim 30 is rejected for substantively the same reasons.

6. **Claim 15** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Orfali, in view of “Parlay APIs 2.1: Generic Messaging Service Interfaces.” (PARLAY_MESSAGING, hereinafter)

With reference to **claim 15**, Orfali does not show that *the services are provided based on a model that is modified from a model defined by the Parlay Group*. PARLAY_MESSAGING shows a messaging model.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to implement a model that is defined by the Parlay Group in PARLAY_MESSAGING, because many of the underlying functionalities described in PARLAY_MESSAGING are required for messaging services. See CORBA Event Services, on page 58 of Orfali.

7. **Claim 25** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Orfali, in view of Webmail.us host webpage (WEBMAIL, hereinafter)

With reference to claim 25, Orfali does not show *the operator of the data network pays for the use of at least one service offered by the at least one external service provider.*

WEBMAIL shows an arrangement in which email service is hosted on an external service provider. A small business or a company with a network could hire the WebMail.us and pay for its use.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to hire WebMail.us to provide a mail hosting service for a data network, because providing web mail hosting is what the company does for business.

8. **Claim 26** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Orfali, in view of “Configuring Easy IP” (PPP, hereinafter)

With reference to **claim 26**, Orfali does not show *that a point-to-point like connection is established based on information communicated by means of said protocol.* PPP shows using point-to-point protocol, on page 2 under the heading “List of Terms.”

It would have been obvious to establish point-to-point connection to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention, because the point-to-point protocol is used for dynamic client IP address allocation for providing network services.

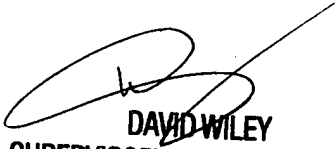
Conclusion

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ji-Yong D. Chung whose telephone number is (571) 272-7988. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Wiley can be reached on (571) 272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Ji-Yong D. Chung
Patent Examiner
Art Unit: 2143


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